

**Department of Homeland Security
Information Analysis and Infrastructure
Protection
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 08 July 2003**

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)
www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- USA Today reports customers of Best Buy, EarthLink and America Online are among recent targets of bogus Web sites that fish for personal data such as credit card and Social Security numbers from unsuspecting consumers. (See item [4](#))
- Cox News Service reports that at Coca-Cola, confidential employee information, including salaries and Social Security numbers, was sent by e-mail to an employee and then forwarded to someone outside the company. (See item [5](#))
- The Associated Press reports health officials are concerned about the re-emergence of Eastern equine encephalitis, a mosquito-borne disease in the Southeast, which can also affect people. (See item [17](#))

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [General](#); [DHS/IAIP Web Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *July 04, Columbian* — **Nuclear plant back online after repair.** Columbia Generating Station was restarted Wednesday after an electrical short in a transformer had forced the nuclear power plant to shut down. Columbia Generating Station is the Northwest's only nuclear plant, located on leased land at Hanford nuclear reservation in south-central Washington. **The 1,200-megawatt plant will return only to about 79 percent power until additional unrelated repairs can be completed later this month,** said Gary Miller, a spokesman for Energy Northwest, which owns the unit. The plant was forced to shut down Monday after the trouble with the transformer was discovered. **Crews replaced wiring on all five transformers**

at the plant to make sure a similar problem did not occur again. The wiring replaced was the original about 20 years old, Miller said. Columbia Generating Station had only returned to service last Saturday after a 50-day outage for refueling and maintenance, which ran past the originally scheduled 34 days. **The plant will now operate at partial power until a pump that sends water through the nuclear reactor is repaired and reinstalled July 14.** The electricity it generates is sold by the Bonneville Power Administration, a federal power marketing agency in Portland.

Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3968918

2. *July 02, Platts Global Energy News* — **Vessel head replacement linked to rate hike for Virginia customers.** Replacing the North Anna-1 and -2 and Surry-1 reactor vessel heads contributed to Dominion's requesting a 29% fuel rate hike for its Virginia electricity customers. **Dominion said yesterday that it spent \$91-million to replace the output of the units while they were down for replacement activities, which exceeded a combined 250 days.** Dominion also cited higher natural gas prices and extreme winter weather as reasons for the proposed rate hike. Dominion is proposing a two-year recovery period, which would raise the fuel rate to 2.079 cents per kilowatt-hour (KWH), up from the current rate of 1.613 cents/KWH. **If a one-year recovery plan is adopted, the new rate would be 2.331 cents/KWH.**

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/nuclear3.html>

3. *July 02, Platts Global Energy News* — **Academy says nuclear is electricity source with least health impact.** France's Academy of Medicine says nuclear should be "maintained" because it is the electricity source with the least public health impact per kilowatt-hour. In an opinion issued July 1, the academy said more research is needed into the health effects of low doses of chemical and radioactive toxins, repeating an earlier opinion that estimating health effects based on the linear no-threshold theory of radiation dose effects "is not scientifically justified." **Energy supply disruptions represent "the gravest danger for health," the doctors said, noting the health consequences of blackouts in times of extreme temperatures.** The academy said it plans to issue an opinion on France's options for management of high-level and long-lived radioactive wastes. The academy's opinion can be view on its Web site at <http://www.academie-medecine.fr>.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/nuclear4.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

4. *July 07, USA Today* — **Spammers' fake sites dupe consumers.** Customers of Best Buy, EarthLink and America Online are among recent targets of so-called phisher sites – bogus Web sites that fish for personal data such as credit card and Social Security numbers from unsuspecting consumers. "This takes spam to a criminal height," says analyst Paul Ritter of the Yankee Group research firm. Complaints are rising – 185 so far this year vs. 228 in 2002, the Identity Theft Resource Center says. **Eric Wenger, a Federal Trade Commission attorney, says the problem is pronounced among customers of large Internet service providers and banks with online accounts. It is unclear how many people have fallen for the scam or how much they lost, he says.**

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/tech/news/2003-07-06-spam_x.htm

5. *July 03, Cox News Service* — **Secret Service probes leak of employee data at Coke.** It's happened again at Coca-Cola. **Confidential employee information, including salaries and Social Security numbers, was breached using a computer. This time, the Secret Service is involved in the investigation. Coke said Wednesday that the records were of employees at "the most senior to the most junior levels of the company." Those records were mistakenly sent by e-mail to an employee.** Instead of notifying others of the mistake, that employee forwarded the confidential e-mail to someone outside the company. The company notified the Secret Service, the federal agency that investigates computer crimes. In a memo to employees, Coke said it would pursue "all remedies, both criminal and civil." The same memo said: "The unauthorized receipt, transmission or possession of this data could be a violation of state and federal criminal laws." Coke declined to say how many employee records were included in the e-mail.

Source: http://www.springfieldnewssun.com/news/content/coxnet/headlines/0703_coke.html

6. *June 30, Reuters* — **Snow urges reforms to curb identity theft.** Treasury Secretary John Snow called on Congress to overhaul consumer credit reporting practices to help stem the growing problem of identity theft. "Secure, reliable information is the lifeblood of all financial services, among which consumer credit is fundamental," Snow said in prepared remarks to the Women in Housing and Finance group at the Treasury Department. **Snow suggested a national "alert system" that would allow consumers to put banks and merchants on guard against possible attempts to misuse the consumer's financial data and to block false account information from getting into the consumer's credit dossier. Snow also called for consumers to have free access to annual credit reports and for the Federal Trade Commission and bank regulators to make it easier for consumers to "opt out" of pre-screened credit offers.**

Source: <http://asia.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=internetNews&storyID=3015591>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

7. *July 07, Boston Business Journal* — **Massport to get \$117M reimbursement for Logan work.** Massport will receive \$117 million from the federal government to reimburse it for

75 percent of the construction costs of its new in-line baggage screening system at Logan International Airport, the agency announced Monday. Logan became the first airport in the country last December to meet the federal government's new requirements regarding baggage surveillance following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Massport received \$30 million for the project last September. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and Congressman Stephen F. Lynch announced an agreement with the Federal Transportation Security Administration to reimburse Massport an additional \$87 million, at a press conference at the airport on Monday.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/boston/stories/2003/07/07/daily3.html?f=et54>

8. *July 03, Government Executive Magazine* — **Transportation to test hazardous material shipment technologies.** The Transportation Department's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration announced Wednesday the start of a field operational test designed to evaluate the costs and benefits of transportation security technologies to safeguard hazardous material shipments. **The test is set to involve 100 trucks equipped with a variety of existing security technologies. The test will evaluate the capabilities of technologies such as driver verification, vehicle tracking, off-route and stolen vehicle alerts and remote vehicle disabling in the event of a terrorist attack,** according to a Transportation Department press release. **A prototype test is scheduled to occur later this month, with full-scale testing set to begin in August and to be completed by late 2004,** the release said. "We must build on our continuous efforts to ensure the security of the more than 800,000 shipments of hazardous materials hauled on U.S. highways every day," Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta said.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0703/070303gsn1.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture Sector

9. *July 07, Wisconsin Ag Connection* — **Study finds CWD more prevalent in older bucks.** Researchers who are evaluating last year's testing data of Wisconsin deer samples submitted for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) say older bucks appear to have a higher prevalence of the fatal brain disease and that the disease is not uniformly distributed within the infected area. **Out of 2,000 adult deer within the area where CWD is most common, yearling deer were found at equal levels in male and female yearlings. "But when the deer in our sample reach three years of age, males are showing double the prevalence," said Dr. Mike Samuel, lead CWD researcher with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Cooperative Wildlife Research Center.** Tom Hauge, director of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Wildlife Management, said the results suggest several possibilities about how the disease is transmitted that, with further analysis, may help identify new ways to manage the disease.

Source: <http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=808&yr=2003>

10. *July 07, Moscow Times* — **Russia threatens to ban EU poultry. Ongoing food safety fears may prompt Russia to ban all imports of poultry and poultry products from the European Union (EU) after July 11, according to an Agriculture Ministry document issued after talks with EU veterinary officials on Friday.** The EU told Russia that it would on July 11 lift the current ban on poultry exports from the Netherlands as well as Belgium and Germany. The ban was introduced after an outbreak of avian flu earlier this year, which prompted a Russian farm to kill more than 90,000 chickens and destroy 360,000 eggs to prevent an outbreak in the country. Russian veterinary officials insist that the danger of avian flu spreading from Europe to Russia has not yet passed. "Russia retains the right to limit poultry imports from all of the EU countries," the Agriculture Ministry said. **The EU and Russia agreed to sign a unified veterinary certificate that will replace the bilateral agreements Russia has with each EU country. Russia purchases up to a third of the EU's poultry exports, importing 264,000 metric tons last year, or 20 percent of poultry imports.**

Source: <http://www.themoscowtimes.com/stories/2003/07/07/044.html>

11. *July 06, Associated Press* — **USDA plans livestock tracking system. Cattle, sheep, and other livestock would be tagged at birth under a planned network that could help contain a mad cow scare.** The government officials and farm groups developing the network have not decided what markings to use and are not certain whether they want to make them a universal requirement, Chuck Lambert, the deputy undersecretary for Agriculture Department marketing programs, said Thursday. **The U.S. does not have a system for tracking most animals, a gap underscored last month when U.S. and Canadian officials spent days tracking down animals possibly linked to a case of mad cow disease in Canada.** Neil Hammerschmidt, a National Institute for Animal Agriculture official who is helping to design the network, predicted that microchips would replace tags within a few of years. **"The goal is to have traceback capabilities within 48 hours" of an outbreak, said Hammerschmidt, who also is the chief operating officer for Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium.** Pigs have been identified with tags since 1988, said Jon Caspers, president of the National Pork Producers Council. Meatpackers can easily track down a market hog directly to its birth farm.

Source: http://www.sierratimes.com/03/07/06/ap_cattle_tracking.htm

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Food Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

12. *July 07, San Antonio Express-News* — **Plan would pipe water to Dallas. The San Antonio Water System (SAWS), in Texas, has no lake or other place to store water. What's not used from its annual allocation from the Edwards Aquifer each year is lost. So SAWS came up with a \$215 million project to store water underground in the Carrizo Aquifer on 3,200 acres it bought in South Bexar County. It's the nation's second-largest such storage**

and recovery project. The plan is to inject up to 7.3 billion gallons (22,500 acre–feet) of Edwards water into the sand aquifer in each year the utility has water left over from its Edwards allotment, said Mike Brinkmann, SAWS project manager.

Source: <http://news.mysanantonio.com/story.cfm?xla=saen&xlb=180&xlc=1022051>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health Sector

13. *July 07, Federal Computer Week* — **CDC's new sense of purpose.** Concerns about bioterrorism have vaulted the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to the front lines of homeland security. **In the past two years, CDC has been given a new job description, shifting it from an agency known for researching and reporting diseases to one charged with protecting the nation from bioterrorism.** But in October 2001, CDC officials found the agency underfunded and without the information–sharing systems necessary to fulfill its crucial new role. Public health officials were not able to electronically exchange information. Public health officials continue to express confidence in CDC and are particularly supportive of the agency's ongoing efforts to link local health professionals with one another, said Georges Benjamin, executive director of the American Public Health Association. **There's a fundamental mind shift to deal with emergencies in an immediate time frame, rather than a deliberate, methodical manner. Now there is an urgency in our work."** That urgency is reflected in increased funding for IT during the past couple of years. Out of a fiscal 2003 budget of \$7 billion, CDC earmarked \$550 million for IT, Seligman said. Of that, \$310 million is for internal agency systems and \$240 million is in the form of grants to help states develop standards–based IT.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0707/cov-cdc-07-07-03.a.sp>

14. *July 07, Federal Computer Week* — **Health officials use secure Web site to exchange information.** Before the triple–checked facts of an outbreak are released to the public or first responders, doctors, and epidemiologists have discussed their observations, ruled out rumors, and exchanged advice. **The Epidemic Information Exchange, known as Epi–X, provides a forum for health professionals to instantly notify others of an outbreak, research and create reports on specific health topics, and track information. The secure Web site brings together various health professionals and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in a free exchange of information.** The site was created nearly a year before the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and grew with the anthrax attacks in October 2001, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak and the recent emergence of monkeypox in the Midwest. **Health professionals have posted more than 1,000 reports since its inception, including information on West Nile virus, a new strain of the flu, food recalls and unknown illnesses in children or travelers. Now, more than 1,200 health care professionals log on to share reports and request assistance.**

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0707/web-cdc1-07-07-03.asp>

15. *July 06, New York Times* — **SARS is declared to be contained around world. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared Saturday that Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) had been contained around the world, with no new cases reported to the agency by any country since June 15. But it warned that the disease could still pose a threat. The**

WHO removed the last place on its list of SARS-affected areas, Taiwan. No new cases have been found there for 20 days, a span the agency believes to be twice the disease's incubation period. **SARS has infected 8,439 people in 30 countries on five continents and has killed 812 people. Nearly 200 people with SARS are still being treated in hospitals around the world under strict isolation procedures to prevent them from infecting health-care workers.** Gro Harlem Brundtland, the WHO's director general, said close cooperation among health professionals around the world had contained the disease, but cautioned against overconfidence. **"We must still remember that the world is not yet SARS-free," she told reporters in a telephone conference call. "We know that one single case can spark a new outbreak."**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/07/06/international/asia/06SARS.html>

16. *July 06, New York Times* — **Report calls U.S. agencies understaffed for bioterror. The U.S. is likely to be overwhelmed in the event of a bioterrorism attack because of serious shortages in skilled medical and scientific personnel, according to a study by a Partnership for Public Service, a nonprofit group that seeks to attract more qualified people to government service.** The study found that the anthrax mailings in 2001 created confusion and heavily burdened the federal agencies that responded to the incident. **The group recommended that the government undertake a campaign including the recruitment of biodefense experts trained in fields like genetics, infectious disease medicine, bacteriology, microbiology, pharmacology, epidemiology, and the physics of aerosol attacks.** The study said the federal agencies that faced serious staffing issues were the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the Food and Drug Administration, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Food Safety and Inspection Service. **It found that biodefense agencies struggled to hire employees with adequate scientific and medical expertise, and concluded that the need for highly trained personnel would increase, while the supply of such talent is likely to decline.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/07/06/national/06BIOT.html>

17. *July 06, Associated Press* — **Concern over illness from mosquitoes. Health officials are concerned about the re-emergence of a mosquito-borne disease in the Southeast, Eastern equine encephalitis.** A Georgia man died June 21 in the nation's first reported human case of the disease this year. **The virus attacks the brain and central nervous system and kills up to 50 percent of people who contract it.** "It's such a serious disease that we've been sending press releases to warn people against this virus," said Nolan Newton of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. **Florida has had 99 horse cases of the disease in 31 counties this year. The virus was confirmed in 11 Georgia horses and 2 birds. Four horses in North Carolina and 17 in South Carolina have also tested positive for the disease. Virginia hasn't had any, but officials have sent e-mails warnings across the state. It's been detected in a pair of birds in West Virginia and has been found in Mississippi horses and even emus in Alabama.** The virus infects birds that roost near swamps, where the mosquito *Culiseta melanura* dwells. But this insect almost never bites people. Rather, people acquire the disease when another mosquito, known as a bridge vector, bites an infected bird and then bites a person.

Source: <http://www.montanaforum.com/rednews/2003/07/05/build/ag/equine-encephalitis.php?nnn=3>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Sector

18. *July 07, Federal Computer Week* — **DHS to launch smart card pilot.** The Homeland Security Department intends to issue a common smart card for its 180,000 employees beginning next year, piggybacking on a government program to issue identification cards to millions of transportation workers. **In a pilot project the agency plans to launch this summer, DHS officials will give 300 federal workers smart cards that will give the employees access to buildings and facilities as well as authentication for computer systems, said Lee Holcomb, chief technology officer at DHS.** Until now, employees for the 22 agencies that were folded into DHS in March brought their own identification cards with them. In many cases, they were not interoperable and did not have complete identifying markers or authorization identification. But Holcomb told Federal Computer Week in an interview last month that officials want a standard ID card across the new department. "You can get in [to a building] if your chip works," he said. "It will provide physical access, a picture ID as well as cyber access."
Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0707/news-smart-07-07-03.asp>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

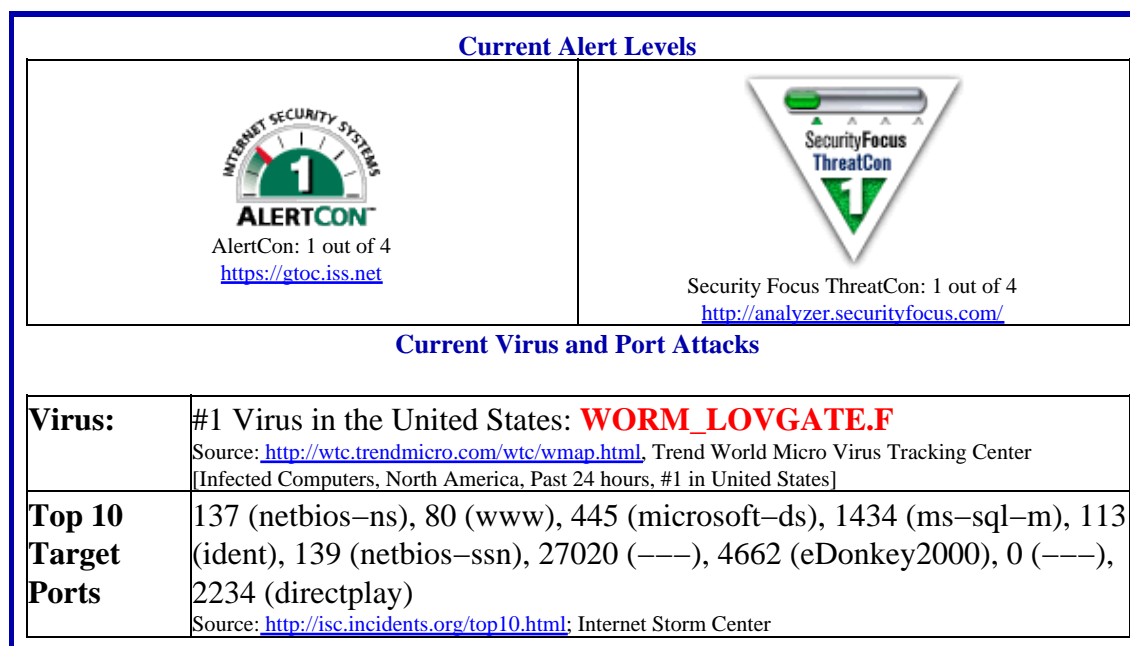
Information and Telecommunications Sector

19. *July 07, The Register* — **FTC calls privacy claims to account.** Most online businesses promise they'll protect customer data as if it were their own. Now the government is holding them to it. United States Federal Trade Commission has indicated its intention to actively pursue companies that obtain personal information by promising a level of security, and then not delivering it. **Almost every company that does business in cyberspace has a security and privacy policy, typically buried at the bottom of a home page, under "legal notice" or "privacy policy."** The FTC concluded that data that is collected under false pretenses is a "deceptive trade practice."
Source: <http://www.theregister.co.uk/content/55/31592.html>
20. *July 03, SecurityFocus* — **Study: Wi-Fi users still don't encrypt.** Two days of electronic eavesdropping at the 802.11 Planet Expo in Boston last week sniffed out more evidence that most Wi-Fi users still aren't getting the message. **Security vendor AirDefense set up two of its commercial "AirDefense Guard" sensors at opposite corners of the exhibit hall at the Boston World Trade Center, the site of the conference.** The company provided attendees with ample notice of the study. "There were huge signs throughout the place saying AirDefense is monitoring all conference traffic." **They found that users checking their e-mail through unencrypted POP connections vastly outnumbered those using a VPN or another encrypted tunnel.** Only three percent of e-mail downloads were encrypted on the first day of

the conference, 12 percent on the second day. **That means the other 88% could easily be intercepted by eavesdroppers using commonly–available tools, compromising both the e–mail and the user's passwords.**

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/news/6290>

Internet Alert Dashboard



[[Return to top](#)]

General Sector

21. *July 07, Reuters* — **Jordan: plot foiled to bomb embassies, resorts.** Jordan said on Monday it had broken a cell of Islamist militants arrested before the Iraq war who planned to bomb embassies, resorts and U.S. targets. **The pro–government daily Al–Rai newspaper quoted security sources as saying state security prosecutor Colonel Mahmoud Obeidat had been interrogating the suspects who were arrested by the country's intelligence services before the war started. The suspects have since been charged with committing acts of terror against U.S. and Western interests, possession of explosives and membership of an illegal underground party.** Their political affiliation or identity was not disclosed. They face the death sentence if convicted. No trial date has yet been set. A security source told Reuters the suspects were caught in a crackdown by the pro–Western kingdom's authorities on underground Islamist groups suspected of planning attacks.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/news/news–security–jordan–arrests.html>

22. *July 07, Federal Computer Week* — **Virginia promotes homeland research.** The Virginia Institute for Defense and Homeland Security launched a summit June 25 showcasing cutting–edge technology projects in development as a way to drive research dollars to the commonwealth's universities. This was the first in what many government, academic and business leaders are hoping will become an annual event. Addressing a well–attended meeting

at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C., Gov. Mark Warner, who officially formed the university and research industry institute in early February, said he had "extraordinarily high hopes" for it. "This is one of the most important initiatives of this administration," he said. **The Secure Virginia Initiative Panel recommended creation of such a group last fall. Soon after, the Virginia Research and Technology Advisory Commission, a 29-member panel created by Warner to advise him on research and technology strategies, began developing plans for the institute.**

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0707/pol-idhs-07-07-03.asp>

[[Return to top](#)]

DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

[DHS/IAIP Warnings](#) – DHS/IAIP Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

[DHS/IAIP Publications](#) – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

[DHS/IAIP Daily Reports Archive](#) – Access past DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports

DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions: nipcdailyadmin@mail.nipc.osis.gov or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at 202-324-1129

Distribution Information Send mail to nipcdailyadmin@mail.nipc.osis.gov for more information.

Contact DHS/IAIP

To report any incidents or to request information from DHS/IAIP, contact the DHS/IAIP Watch at nipc.watch@fbi.gov or call 202-323-3204.

DHS/IAIP Disclaimer

The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary and assessment of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. This is an internal DHS/IAIP tool intended to serve the informational needs of DHS/IAIP personnel and other interested staff. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions of the content. The IAIP provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or of accuracy in respect of the original source material.